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The Chestnut-banded Sand-Plover in Israel

by HAIM HOVEL

The range of the Chestnut-banded Sand-Plover, *Charadrius venustus* Fischer and Reichenow (= *pallidus* Strickland) lies in north-eastern and southern Africa. The species is resident throughout its range; therefore records outside the regular distribution area are rare and of interest.

This note relates to an example shot on the sea-shore at the mouth of the Kishon River in the Mediterranean, near Haifa, on 18th July, 1958. The specimen, a female, was in a small group of Great Sand-Plovers, *Charadrius leschenaultii* Lesson and Kentish Plovers *Charadrius alexandrinus alexandrinus* Linnaeus. In H. Hovel's collection; collector's No. 935.

Description: Above, medium smoke-grey with a tawny wash and whitish tips to feathers, especially on the head. Whitish tips to the wing-coverts; inner edge of primaries washed white. Forehead white with some chestnut on the upper part and a chestnut line from base of bill to eye.

Under parts white with a tawny band across the breast; sides of neck tawny and white. Eye brown. Bill black. Legs and feet greenish-grey.

Measurements: Wing 103; tarsus 28; bill from feathers 15.5 mm. Ovary with eggs about 1-1.5 mm. in diameter. Weight 42 grams. Because of lack of comparative material no attempt was made to determine the subspecies.

The Northern Carmine Bee-eater, *Merops nubicus* Gmelin using animal perches

by IAN GRIMWOOD

Received 9th March, 1964

There have been several published records of the Carmine Bee-eater, *Merops nubicus* perching on large birds such as the Kori Bustard, *Ardeotis kori* (Burchell) and Abdim's Stork, *Sphenorhynchus abdimii* (Lichtenstein). According to Praed and Grant (1952) 'These animate perches are not merely resting places, but are definitely used as 'beaters' for putting up